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EXAMINER

GAUTHIER, GERALD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2645

DATE MAILED: 09/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

14

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/972,572

Applicant(s)

HOLMES, DAVID WILLIAM JAMES

Examiner

Gerald Gauthier

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 and 5. 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. **Claims 13 and 19** are objected to because of the following informalities: **claim 13**, line 6 "recognition/connection" means "recognition and connection" or "recognition or connection".

Claim 19, line 3 has the same problem. Please clarify.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1, 3-12, 16-17, 19 and 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Henry, Jr. (US 6,526,292).

Regarding **claim 1**, Henry discloses a method for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed "a method for automatically connecting to electronic addresses received in spoken communications"), comprising:

receiving at least one telephone call (column 4, line 38 "reception of the speech data") including voiced address information (column 4, line 42 "includes numerical digits"), wherein the voiced address information corresponds to at least one electronic address (column 4, lines 35-45) [The telephone is initiated to allow reception of speech data which include numerical digits];

identifying the voiced address information (column 4, lines 46-52) [The processing circuit determines whether the speech data received is a recognized numerical digits];

automatically extracting the identified voiced address information based on the identified voiced address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

receiving user input (column 5, lines 15-18) [The speech data is a recognized command]; and

after receiving the user input, automatically coupling to at least one electronic address (column 5, line 20 "the digit string") associated with the voiced address information based in part on the automatically extracted and identified voiced address information (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Regarding **claim 3**, Henry discloses generating an electronic message including the extracted voiced address information (column 4, lines 35-45);

forwarding the electronic message among at least one location pre-specified by a user (column 4, lines 46-52); and

extracting the voiced address information from the electronic message following receipt at the at least one location (column 4, lines 52-59).

Regarding **claim 4**, Henry discloses wherein the at least one location includes a telephone, wherein at least one operation can be performed on the address information including editing and storing (column 3, lines 23-34).

Regarding **claim 5**, Henry discloses wherein the at least one location includes at least one call switch, wherein a first electronic connection is terminated in order to establish the coupling (column 5, lines 15-26).

Regarding **claim 6**, Henry discloses wherein the at least one location includes at least one server, wherein at least one operation can be performed on the address information including editing, loading into at least one directory, and posting to at least one web page (column 5, lines 27-37).

Regarding **claim 8**, Henry discloses receiving at least one command from a user, wherein the at least one command is of a type selected from among spoken commands and manual input commands (column 5, lines 15-26).

Regarding **claim 9**, Henry discloses wherein the electronic address types further include electronic mail addresses and Uniform Resource Identifiers (column 5, lines 15-26).

Regarding **claim 10**, Henry discloses wherein coupling comprises connecting a called party with two or more other parties during a telephone call using the at least one electronic address, wherein a conference call is established (column 5, lines 15-26).

Regarding **claim 11**, Henry discloses wherein the at least one electronic address is associated with at least one device selected from among personal computers, processor-based devices, wired telephones, wireless telephones, wired radiotelephones, wireless radiotelephones, internet telephones, cellular telephones, pagers, personal digital assistants, personal communication devices, electronic mail devices, telematic systems, and informatics systems (column 3, lines 23-34).

Regarding **claim 12**, Henry discloses a method for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed "a method for automatically connecting to electronic addresses in voice streams"), comprising:

receiving electronic communications (column 4, line 38 “reception of the speech data”) including the voice streams (column 4, lines 35-45) [The telephone is initiated to allow reception of speech data which include numerical digits];

automatically recognizing and extracting the electronic addresses from the received voice streams using automatic voice recognition (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit]; and

automatically connecting two or more electronic communication devices using the electronic addresses (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Regarding **claim 16**, Henry discloses a system for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed “a portable telephone system that automatically couples to electronic addresses received in audio communications”), comprising:

at least one voice recognition subsystem (column 3, line 67 “a speech recognition”) configurable to:

analyze received verbal data (column 3, lines 3-12);

identify spoken address information of the verbal data, wherein the spoken address information includes at least one electronic address selected from electronic address types including telephone numbers (column 4, lines 46-52) [The processing circuit determines whether the speech data received is a recognized numerical digits];

automatically recognize and extract the identified spoken address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

format the extracted address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

transfer the formatted address information to at least one pre-specified location (column 4, lines 56-63) [The converted alphabetic character is inserted into the dialing string];

couple to the at least one electronic address using the transferred address information (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Regarding **claim 17**, Henry discloses wherein the analysis is either real-time analysis of telephone calls or post analysis of voice mail messages (column 4, lines 52-59).

Regarding **claim 19**, Henry discloses a system for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed “a portable electronic device that automatically couples users among electronic addresses received in spoken communications”), comprising:

at least one recognition or connection system (column 3, line 67 “a speech recognition”) that performs voice recognition analysis on live calls and recorded

information, wherein the voice recognition analysis includes analyzing at least one voice stream (column 4, lines 46-52) [The processing circuit determines whether the speech data received is a recognized numerical digits];

identifying address information of the at least one voice stream, wherein the address information includes at least one electronic address selected from electronic address types including telephone numbers (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

automatically recognizing and extracting the identified address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

transferring the extracted address information to at least one pre-specified location (column 4, lines 56-63) [The converted alphabetic character is inserted into the dialing string]; and

coupling to the at least one electronic address using the extracted address information in response to a user command (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Regarding **claim 21**, Henry discloses a system for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed "computer readable medium including executable instructions which, when executed in a processing system"), automatically couples to electronic addresses received in spoken communications by:

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receiving at least one telephone call (column 5, line 60 “a key on a telephone keypad”) including voiced address information, wherein the voiced address information corresponds to at least one electronic address (column 4, lines 35-45) [The telephone is initiated to allow reception of speech data which include numerical digits];

identifying the voiced address information automatically extracting the identified voiced address information based on the identified voiced address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

receiving user input (column 5, lines 15-18) [The speech data is a recognized command]; and

after receiving the user input, automatically coupling to at least one electronic address associated with the voiced address information based in part on the automatically extracted and identified voiced address information (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 2, 7, 13-15, 18, 20 and 22** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry in view of Dunn et al. (US 6073,103).

Regarding **claim 2**, Dunn teaches storing the at least one telephone call as at least one voice mail message (column 5, lines 56-59);

retrieving and playing the at least one voice mail message (column 6, lines 50-64);

scanning the at least one voice mail message for the voiced address information (column 6, lines 50-64);

identifying at least one portion of the at least one voice mail message that includes the voiced address information (column 6, lines 50-64); and

re-playing the identified at least one portion to verify in the at least one portion accuracy of address information for the electronic address (column 6, lines 50-64).

Regarding **claims 7 and 14**, Dunn teaches configuring the retrieving and scanning using a configuration selected from among at least one automatic and at least one manual configuration (column 6, lines 50-64);

wherein the at least one automatic configuration automatically retrieves and scans the at least one voice mail message (column 6, lines 50-64);

wherein the at least one manual configuration retrieves and scans the at least one voice mail message upon receipt of at least one corresponding user command (column 6, lines 50-64).

Regarding **claim 13**, Henry discloses a system for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed "a communications system, comprising:

at least one network (column 3, line 14 "a mobile environment") coupled among components including:

at least one portable communications device (10 on FIG. 1);

at least one routing system (22 on FIG. 1); and

at least one recognition or connection system (24 on FIG. 1);

wherein the components support voice recognition analysis on live calls and recorded information (column 4, lines 35-45) [The telephone is initiated to allow reception of speech data which include numerical digits];

wherein the voice recognition analysis includes:

analyzing at least one voice stream, identifying spoken address information of the at least one voice stream (column 4, lines 46-52) [The processing circuit determines whether the speech data received is a recognized numerical digits];

wherein the spoken address information includes at least one electronic address selected from electronic address types including telephone numbers (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

automatically recognizing and extracting the identified address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

transferring the extracted address information to at least one pre-specified location (column 5, lines 15-18), and automatically connecting users to the at least one electronic address using the extracted address information in response to a command (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Henry fails to disclose a voice message system.

However, Dunn teaches at least one voice message system (1 on FIG. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the voice message system of the apparatus of Dunn in the portable phone of Henry.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of having a voice message device such as the system would allow the user to replay a portion of the message containing the digits number.

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Regarding **claims 15, 18 and 20**, Dunn teaches wherein transferring includes using at least one short message transfer type selected from among short message services and alphanumeric paging services (column 5, lines 55-67).

Regarding **claim 22**, Henry discloses a system for creating a digit string for use by a portable phone (column 1, lines 8-12), (which reads on claimed "a portable communication device that automatically connects users to electronic addresses received in spoken communications"), comprising:

including voiced address information, wherein the voiced address information corresponds to at least one electronic address (column 4, lines 35-45) [The telephone is initiated to allow reception of speech data which include numerical digits];

means for identifying the voiced address information (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

means for automatically extracting the identified voiced address information using voice recognition (column 4, lines 52-59) [The processing circuit converts the alphabetic character to its corresponding numerical digit];

means for receiving user input (column 5, lines 15-18) [The speech data is a recognized command]; and

means for coupling to at least one electronic address associated with the voiced address information using the automatically extracted and identified voiced address

information in response to the user input (column 5, lines 18-26) [The processing circuit send a signal to cause a call to originate according to the digit string].

Henry fails to disclose a voice message system.

However, Dunn teaches means for receiving at least one voice mail message (1 on FIG. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the voice message system of the apparatus of Dunn in the portable phone of Henry.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of having a voice message device such as the system would allow the user to replay a portion of the message containing the digits number.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Laurilla et al. is cited for a method for dialing a telephone number by voice commands (FIG. 1).

Hunt et al. is cited for a method for continuous recognition of alphanumeric strings spoken over a telephone network (FIG. 1).

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7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (703) 305-0981. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (703) 305-4895. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.


g.g.

September 1, 2003

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

